

MEETING OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

(ALL MEETINGS OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC)

Location: CA State Fair/Cal Expo
Clubhouse of the Satellite Wagering Facility
1600 Exposition Blvd
Sacramento, CA 95814

Contact: Helen Lopez, Executive Director
Phone: (916) 657-3231

MEETING MINUTES FOR August 29, 2007

Item
No.

(1) **CALL TO ORDER**

- (a) The meeting was called to order Wednesday, August 29th, at approximately 10:00 a.m. Al Montna, President of the State Board of Food and Agriculture presiding.
- (b) Welcoming remarks provided by Al Montna.
- (c) Pledge of Allegiance.

(2) **ROLL CALL**

Roll call taken by Helen Lopez, Executive Director. A quorum was present.

Present:

Wayne Bidlack	Donald Bransford	Tom Deardorff
Luawanna Hallstrom	Craig McNamara	William Moncovich
Al Montna	Karen Ross	Ann Bacchetti-Silva
Rick Standiford		

Absent:

Drue Brown	Marvin Meyers	Adan Ortega
Ashley Boren		

(3) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 25, 2007**

MOTION: Board Member Tom Deardorff moved to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2007 meeting. The motion was seconded by Board Member Craig McNamara and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

(4) **DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES**

Ann Bacchetti-Silva announced that the Milk Pooling Quota Review Committee had decided to leave the Quota unchanged and produce a two page document explaining its reason for doing so.

(5) **OTHER BUSINESS**

Opening remarks on the Equine Industry were provided by Secretary A.G Kawamura.

PRESENTATIONS BY GUEST SPEAKERS

Steven Olivia Chief Counsel for the Department of Conservation, and Paul Winger, First Vice President of the Farm Bureau opened the meeting with Presentations on the Williamson Act.

Panel 1 – Industry Perspective on How They Fit Into Agriculture

-Frank "Scoop" Vessels, President, California Horse Council

Panel 2 – Equine Issues and Related Activities

- Alex Ardan, Director, California Animal Health & Food Safety Laboratory Systems
- Greg Ferarro, Director, Center for Equine Health

Panel 3 – Industry Partners

- Doug Burge, Executive Director, CA Thoroughbred Association
- Kirk Breed, Lobbyist, Pacific Coast Quarter Horse Racing Association
- Drew Couto, President, Thoroughbred Owners of CA

Panel 4 – History of Horseracing and Fairs In California

- Stephen Chambers, Executive Director, California Fair Alliance

Panel 5 – Future of Horseracing at Fairs and the Importance of the Equine Industry in Fairs

- Chris Korby, Executive Director, CA Authority of Racing Fairs
- Craig Fravel, Representative, Del Mar Thoroughbred Club
- Rick Pickering, CEO, Alameda County Fair Association

The following recommendations were made by Mr. Pickering:

- Adopt a policy to include the Equine Industry into Agriculture
- Adopt the Del Mar Racetrack Model
- Provide oversight of the Equine Industry
- Create additional seats on the Board to add Equine and Livestock Representatives

- Norb Bartosik, Chief Executive Officer, Cal Expo

Panel 6 – History of Horseracing and Fairs in California

- Jack Rutz, Deputy Director, NASS, Marketing Ag Statistics

(All presentations and statements provided by the speakers are available on request.)

ACTION: All requests made by presenters were noted by the Board and will be addressed at the appropriate time.

(6) OTHER BUSINESS CONT...

Board Member Luawana Hallstrom provided an update on Immigration Reform. Board Member Tom Deardorff provided an update on the Farm Bill Task Force and SB 180: Labor representatives: elections and recommended the Board encourage the Governor to veto the bill. Board President Al Montna recommended obtaining the Secretary's position on the matter.

(7) COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

(8) CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:30 P.M.